

## THE WILSON PLAN

When President Wilson went to Paris for the first meeting of the peace conference, he carried with him his conception of a league of nations.

It was a document that has since become known as "the American draft of the covenant of the league of nations." It was the product of months of study and laborious investigation. It was the child of his brain.

It was a document shot full of Americanism. It was such a document as a man with his vision, his patriotism and his idealism, combined with his mentality and his skill might have been expected to prepare.

It breathed the spirit of Americanism; it carried comfort to the suffering people of the world; it was a rainbow of promise against a sky filled with war clouds, the only hopeful sign in the firmament. It was such a document as might have been expected to come from an American. It offered much but offered it without surrendering a single vital principle of Americanism.

For awhile there was something said about the "American plan" after it was proposed in Paris, and then it was heard of no more. In the place of it there came the Smuts plan. It was the product of Gen. Smuts as much as the American plan was the creature of President Wilson.

The American people were and are for the Wilson plan, but the peace conference rejected it. The conference adopted the Smuts plan and the senate of the United States has declined to ratify it.

This brings us to a consideration of the difference between the two plans, and, if possible, to find why it is that senators who favored the Wilson plan are denounced as "anti-Wilson" because they do not subscribe to the Smuts plan.

The first sentence in article 11 of the covenant, which cannot be considered apart from article 10, about which there has been so much controversy, reads as follows:

Any war or threat of war, whether immediately affecting any member of the league or not, is hereby declared a matter of concern to the whole league, and the league shall take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations.

The first sentence of article 8 of the American draft, written by President Wilson and advocated by him, but rejected by the conference, with reference to the same subject just quoted from article 11 of the covenant, reads as follows:

Any war or threat of war, whether immediately affecting any of the contracting parties or not, is hereby declared a matter of concern of the league and to all the contracting powers, and the contracting powers hereby reserve the right to take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations.

The difference between the two is perfectly obvious. The covenant adopted provides in articles 10 and 11, that "the league shall take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations."

The plan prepared and advocated by the president, provided that "the contracting powers hereby reserve the right to take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations." His plan was rejected and the Smuts plan, providing that "the league shall take any action that may be deemed wise," was substituted.

The reservation to articles 10 and 11 is nothing more than an effort on the part of the senate to Wilsonize the covenant, so far as the United States is concerned.

The president's plan stated that any war or threat of war was a matter of concern to the league, but the right to take action was specifically reserved by the contracting powers, and not conferred upon the league.

In almost the exact language of the president the senate adopted a reservation retaining for congress the right vested in it by the constitution.

Yet there are persons who say that a senator in favor of the "contracting power" (the United States) reserving the right to take any action that may be deemed wise, is against America, against Wilson and against the league!

They say these things notwithstanding to do so is to hew to the line laid down by the constitution; to advocate the principle first enunciated by the president and contended for by him until he was obliged by European diplomats to give it up, and to subscribe to the plan outlined in the first draft of the covenant ever written.

## GOV. RUSSELL

The inaugural address of the new governor of Mississippi, the Hon. Lee M. Russell, gives evidence that his service to the state as lieutenant-governor was excellent training for his new responsibility.

His address was filled with familiar discussion of the problems and needs of the state. He knows from personal experience how the remedies should be applied, how reforms can best be accomplished and how the state can prosper and the people be made content and happy.

The legislature will do well to heed the admonition of Gov. Russell. He has given his subject conscientious and patriotic thought, and there is every indication that he will make a good governor and vindicate the confidence the people have placed in him.

Gov. Russell goes into office at an opportune time. He finds the people industrious and determined to set things right where they are wrong, and improve them where improvement is possible. He finds on the other hand the same vicious influences, though happily in a less marked degree, that disturb other states and other people, at work in Mississippi. He is on record to eradicate evil, oppression, profiteering and parasites that contribute nothing to the betterment of society.

Naturally we wish for Gov. Russell an administration filled with good achievements, and the people of Mississippi a period of repose from factional politics during his term of office.

Our neighbor in a somewhat inapt comparison of Borah, Oscar Wilde and the league of nations says, "All men kill the thing they love." The coward does it with a kiss; the brave man with a sword, and adds, "Borah would use the sword." We would not say that Borah is madly infatuated with the league of nations.

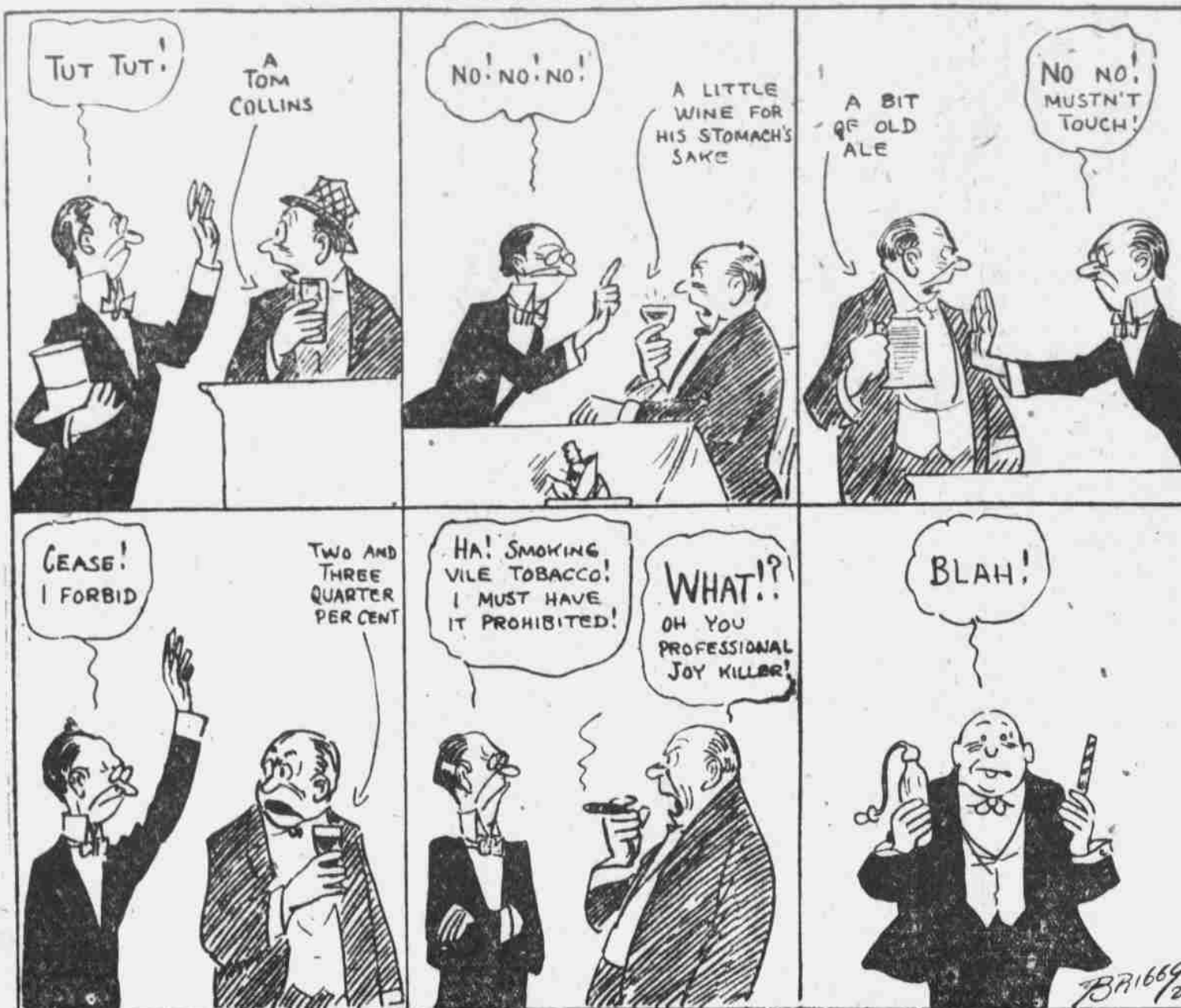
At least no one will doubt that the admonition given Admiral Sims not to permit the British to pull the wool over his eyes was not heeded, or he would not be dubbed "the best British admiral in the American navy."

The thing that often impresses us is that there are so many persons who believe confidently in some plan that will work and at the same time believe so slightly in work itself.

What has become of the annual spring campaign to induce the farmer to reduce production?

## Somebody Is Always Taking the Joy Out of Life—By Briggs

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## Ye Editor Nods

Joits and Jestis

Skipped Past

The Blue Pencil

HONOR.

Garbage disposal was the subject of a meeting of a local club wherein a celebrated vaudeville artist was made an honorary member. Hope they meant nothing critical as to the artist offering aforesaid artist pushes over the footlights.

ROUGH.

Arkansas rioters, criminals, etc., should paraphrase the Bard of Avon when the governor gets after them. There is a destiny that shapes our ends, though, how them as we may.

PATIENCE.

Race riots in Arkansas can not be checked in a day. It will take the

spring that in some sections to reveal the bodies of all these slain.

ALSO.

It is next to impossible to count the bodies at New Orleans as they go out to fructify the waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

NOM DE TELEPHONE.

The Bartlett reporter, now an editor, has earned the title of "Grail Brothers" because his long distance phone number is so nearly phonetically akin to Grail Bros., number that the owner of the overworked telephone operator just can't help ringing him when one wants to order hardware.

NO.

Of course hardware and news have no affinity. How could one suggest such a thing?

HABIT.

The words "Tut," "Solon," "Huns," "Nips," "Kicks," "Raps" and so on ad infinitum, are still working for headline writers.

GENIUS.

Some day the almost lost art of dramatic criticism is going to put on its proper level. At the suggestion of

house managers whose literary education is often limited to identification and addition of one-dollar bills and others of a little larger denomination, a review of great value to the people who buy and read a newspaper—according to analytical minds should read like this:

Stuff and Bluff, opening. Very good. Slap and Bang, second. Fine. Julius Caesar (or some other Julius)—oh, well, you know how opinions differ. Madame Pogorn—Wonderful, but voice a bit hairy.

(Intermission to accommodate tired audience.) Monsieur-Alley Up. Wonderful juggle of human knees and joints. Educated Amosha—Wonderful exhibition of the talents of unicolor organisms in worldly joints.

Bathroom—One-room split, skin to "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath," and cleaned in the bathroom in consonance with the edict of a Memphis censor in Los Angeles, Cal.

The rest of the bill in the hands of capable hands, followed by that beautiful afterpiece, "Logan's Dream."

We do not know who the "ultimate consumer" will be, but we know what he will be doing. He will be going from store to store pleading for sugar.

Cartoons Magazine.

## Embezzler Pays Old

Debt In Order To

Win Back Woman

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—The American Surety company announced that a burglar who had been seeking 15 years has revealed himself, and asked permission to make restitution, so he could marry the woman who divorced him at the time of his flight and start life over again.

In 1913 the man, whose name is concealed by the company, helped himself to \$2,181 belonging to his employer, the Romington Typewriter company. The theft took place in Duluth.

The embezzler vanished. His wife divorced him and married again. He assumed a new identity. The fugitive gained success and respect. His former wife suggested that he should come back and start again.

They met and agreed to start again where they left off. In order to wipe the slate clean he wants to renew his interest the sum he appropriated, offering \$4,000.

Why did the burglar who took "furs, cash, gems, eggs and butter" want to do such a trifling thing as cash?—Minneapolis Tribune.

Memphis, Tenn.

TELLING THE TRUTH.

To The News Scimitar: As an American whose family helped to make our country, it warmed my heart to read your two editorials in today's issue on "Trouble in India" and "Embezzling." I was glad to come to the conclusion that our managers of the artificial paper shortage had succeeded in their efforts of replacing the "muzzle" in another way. Every true American will admire you for your courage to tell the truth, and requires courage to tell the truth.

REV. M. D. COLLINS.

Jackson, Mo.

HICKMAN BANK ELECTS.

HICKMAN, Ky., Jan. 22. (Sp.)—At a regular annual meeting and election of officers of the Hickman Bank, the following were elected for the ensuing year: Dr. J. M. Hubbard, president; M. J. Loe, vice-president; C. B. Travis, active vice-president; B. C. Hampe, cashier; and J. D. Henry, secretary.

The board of directors is composed of Dr. J. M. Hubbard, Dr. M. L. B. G. Hale, Sec. R. O. Carver, R. L. Bird, Judge W. B. Amberg and Walter Luten. The bank reports the past year as the most prosperous in its history. It now has combined capital and surplus of \$10,000.

MOVING PICTURES.

SAVOY

Today Only

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—IN—

"A FUGITIVE FROM MATRIMONY"

Do men want to marry? Do women make them marry? Answers to these questions will be found cleverly portrayed in this comedy drama.

—Coming Friday—

DOROTHY DALTON in

"A GAMBLE IN SOULS."

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## Public Discussion

ARTICLE 10 OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

To The News Scimitar: In your editorial of Monday it seems to me you misinterpreted my letter in that letter arguing for or against the wisdom of article 10. I was merely trying to clarify the issue. I took the ground that the reservation absolutely destroys the article and that advocates of the league should not be expected to agree that the league should be adopted with article 10 stricken out. I was simply trying to show that the reservation stricken article 10 as completely as if it were a letter passing through the hands of Borah armed with the automatic revolver. You, however, misinterpreted all this and therefore there is nothing in my letter for you to differ from.

If I had been writing in favor of the wisdom of article 10, I would have taken a different ground. I would have written quite a different strain. I found that I did not understand the effect of the reservation until I received copies recently of the league and the reservations and considered the language of the two. I found that the reservation on the subject in the minds of many persons with whom I talked. I read an article by one of our countrymen in the Review, in the December number, taking the position that the reservation as to article 10 does not change the meaning of the article, but simply, by way of explicit explanation, declares the meaning of article 10 to be just what it is. I found that the reservation, if it were without the reservation, it would be without the reservation.

My letter was intended to show that this view was incorrect. I was not attempting to give my reasons for favoring article 10, but merely insisting that the reservation destroyed the article and that the authors of the reservation claimed that the advocates of the league had no reason to object to this reservation.

The Monroe doctrine furnishes a good illustration of my meaning. That doctrine obligates the United States to preserve against the external aggression of all European powers the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all the Latin-American republics. It is a doctrine that has no meaning at all. I understand the same kind of argument was used by the Monroe doctrine when first proposed as is used against the league of nations. Suppose the Monroe doctrine had taken the form of a treaty between this country and the Latin-American republics. The doctrine would have been more tangible and explicit, but the effect would not have been different. Suppose then such a treaty had been formulated and proposed to the senate. Some would have objected to it, some would have opposed it in toto, and others would have proposed reservations. One of those reservations would read:

"The United States does not undertake to forbid or oppose the aggression of any European nation as to any of the Latin-American republics, and it assumes an obligation to preserve, against such aggression, the territorial integrity and existing political independence of such republics, unless and until congress shall so provide."

Would that reservation express the meaning of the Monroe doctrine? It would merely create a vacuum. I am not discussing the wisdom of the Monroe doctrine, but I am trying to show the effect of such a reservation.

Of course, it goes without saying that in the case of a violation of the Monroe doctrine, just as in case of a breach of article 10, it should be ratified by a vote of the senate. It would be for a manner and means of enforcing our national obligation. It would be for a manner and means of declaring war and providing the men and the means to carry out our obligation. The obligation, however, would exist before the ratification.

If article 10 is right, it should be adopted. If it is wrong, it should be rejected. But I submit that no one has the right to declare that it is wrong, to extenuate it by apt confusion of words, and then claim to be a friend of the league.

F. H. HEISEKEL.

Memphis, Tenn.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q To what fine is a person liable for failure to make out an income tax return? C. Y. H.

A Persons who thus fail to make out their income tax are liable to a fine of \$1,000.

Q Are government employees eligible to take out war risk insurance? E. A.

A Government employees are not permitted to take out such insurance. Only persons in the military and naval forces of the United States may apply for this insurance.

Q Did the government pay a commission to persons who sold Liberty bonds? C. D.

A People who sold Liberty or Victory bonds during the various campaigns did not receive a commission or percentage on the sale of such bonds. Their services were voluntary.

Q How often is Halley's comet visible? A. H.

A Halley's comet is visible every 76 years. As it was last seen on April 29, 1910, it will not appear again until the year 1986.

Q How did the regular army of the United States compare with the standing army of Great Britain in 1913? G. A. C.

A In that year, the United States had a regular army of 55,000 men, while Great Britain's army consisted of 162,251 men.

Q Would a Canadian be eligible to vote in England? W. H.

A A citizen of Canada is considered a subject of Great Britain, and consequently does not have to qualify for citizenship in England in order to vote. He would, however, have to reside in a district for a certain length of time to establish a residence.

Q Is there any way in which I may make application for a passport to leave the country without my birth certificate, which has been misplaced? G. H.

A If you have an affidavit signed by two persons setting forth the date and place of your birth, and submit this affidavit with the application for passport, it will take the place of your birth certificate.

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The News Scimitar, Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. This office applies strictly to information. The bureau cannot give advice on legal, medical, and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Give full name and address and include two-cent stamp or return postage. Write your question plainly and briefly. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

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